

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid sequence obtained by mutation of a sequence encoding a plant protein of the GRAS family, the wild-type form of which comprises the following peptide sequence (SEQ ID NO:5):

Gly Tyr X₁ Val Glu Glu (⊕)

in which X₁ represents arginine or asparagine, wherein said mutation results in a modification of said sequence (I, SEQ ID NO:5) such that the nucleic acid sequence encodes a mutant protein comprising the following peptide sequence (SEQ ID NO: 7):

Gly Tyr X₁ Val Glu X₂

in which X₁ is as defined above, and X₂ represents a basic amino acid, and

wherein a plant transformed with said isolated nucleic acid, which expresses said mutant protein exhibits a reduction in plant size as compared to the wild-type plant.

2. – 3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) The nucleic acid sequence as claimed in claim 1, wherein it encodes the polypeptide represented by SEQ ID NO: 4.

5. (Previously Presented) A plant with reduced development, comprising one or more copies of a nucleic acid sequence as claimed in claim 1.

6. (Previously Presented) The plant as claimed in claim 5, wherein it is crucifer.

7. (Currently Amended) The plant as claimed in ~~claim 6~~ claim 5, wherein it is a member of the family Brassicaceae.

8. (Original) The plant as claimed in claim 7, chosen from rapeseed, cabbage, turnip, brown mustard and Ethiopian mustard.

9. – 10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) A plant with reduced development, comprising one or more copies of a nucleic acid sequence as claimed in claim 4.

12. (Previously Presented) The nucleic acid sequence as claimed in claim 1, wherein X₂ is a lysine.

13. (Previously Presented) A plant with reduced development, comprising one or more copies of a nucleic acid sequence as claimed in claim 12.

14. (Previously Presented) A mutant plant with reduced development, wherein said mutant plant is obtained by chemical mutagenesis and comprises one or more copies of a nucleic acid sequence of claim 1.

15. (Previously Presented) The mutant plant of claim 14, wherein said mutant plant is a rapeseed plant.

16. (Previously Presented) A descendant of the mutant plant of claim 14, comprising one or more copies of said nucleic acid sequence.